Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : The review of Government on the report of the Excise Department says that the detection of offences for malpractices is on the increase. But the answer now given by the Commissioner is that illicit tapping and offences connected with it are not on the increase. How can I take it that the latter statement of the Commissioner is correct?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : The answer says that there is nothing to warrant a finding that malpractices have increased.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : Then, is the conclusion arrived at by Government that when detection of offences is on the increase, illicit tapping is also on the increase a mere guess?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : Probably, the member bases his question on an assumption. It is not possible to answer such a question.

Mr K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : Sir, may I make a statement? Is it not the duty of the head of the department to be in possession of relevant records, such as the administration reports and the Government orders thereon?

Auction sale of Mannamkantam.

74. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether it was with the intention of making it available to the poor people also that Mannamkantam was divided into small blocks and sold in auction?

Mr. K. George (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) Yes.

(The answer was read also in malayalam.)

Money spent on the purchase of tobacco.

75. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam:** Will the Government be pleased to state the amount of money that goes out of Travancore for purchasing tobacco?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : A * statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(The answer was read also in malayalam.)

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know from the member whether there are places in Travancore suitable for the cultivation of tobacco?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : There may be places. The matter has not been investigated.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know whether the Commissioner has consulted the Director of Agriculture in this matter?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : The question has long been engaging the attention of Government and the Director of Agriculture might have been consulted several times.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : May I know the result of that consultation?

President : The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. K.P. Nilakanta Pillai : May I know what is the quantity of jaffna tobacco that is allowed to be imported into Travancore?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : 5,745 candies a year.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : What was the quantity of jaffna tobacco imported during 1109, in excess of the quantity allowed for the same?

Mr. C. O Madhavan : It is not possible to import in excess of the quantity allowed for that.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : My question is whether the Travancore Government was importing jaffna tobacco in excess of the quantity allowed for that?

President : The Excise Commissioner answered that the quantity is fixed.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : May I know whether jaffna tobacco can be purchased for consumption in Travancore beyond the fixed quantity?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : Anything over and above the fixed quantity can be imported only on payment of a duty of Rs. 900 per candy. No man is likely to do it.

Mr. K. P Nilakanta Pillai : Whether it has been brought to the notice of the Commissioner that jaffna tobacco is being taken out of Travancore to British India through the Customs Offices in the Frontier?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : No.

Cultivation of beedi leaves in Travancore.

76. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the amount that goes out of Travancore for beedi leaves ; and

(*b*) whether beedi leaves cannot be cultivated here in larger quantities?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) A * statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(*b*) A few years ago seeds of Diospyros melamoxylon were got down from Hyderabad and distributed to the several Divisions to be sown in congenial localities. Though the plants came up in some places fairly well in the beginning they began to languish later probably owing to excessive rainfall and the experiment has not been a success.

(The answer was read also in malayalam.)

* *Vide* Appendix IV—page 440.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Appendix II.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 73.**

Statement showing the consumption (in terms of Proof strength) of several kinds of liquor during the last five years:—

	Jaggery arrack.	*Cocoanut toddy arrack.*
1105	1,23,128·44	680·82
1106	76,863·16	535·86
1107	57,634·95	392·68
1108	56,479·80	1,186·46
1109	51,112·34	876·11

Statement showing the quantity of foreign liquor imported for consumption during the last five years.

1105	35,859·7 gallons.
1106	30,159·4 ,,
1107	25,586·9 ,,
1108	21,298·3 ,,
1109	24,425·19 ,,

Appendix III.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 75.**

Statement showing the quantity and value of tobacco imported into the State during the years 1107, 1108 and 1109.

Year.	*Quantity Cds.*	*Value Bh.Rs.*
1107	17,821	46,C8,350
1108	21,009	49,59,505
1109	17,922	47,32,050

Appendix IV.

***Vide* Answer to Question No 76.**

Statement showing the value of beedi leaves imported into Travancore during each of the past five years.

Years.		*Value.* Bh. Rs.
1105	...	69,719
1106	...	1,09,188
1107	..	2,13,432
1108	...	1,08,636
1109	...	1,64,407
	Average	1,33,076 2/5

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly